

Appln No. 10/807,014

Amdt date May 5, 2005

Reply to Office action of January 31, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A golf putting aid comprising:
first and second attachment structures;
an upper alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures;
a lower alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures, such that the alignment members are vertically aligned to define a vertical plane which is perpendicular to a putting surface;
at least one longitudinal support member disposed between and fixedly attached to the attachment structures; and
a target attached to the first attachment structure, and wherein the target defines an opening that is at least as large as a regulation size golf ball, wherein the target opening is bisected by the vertical plane.

2. (Currently Amended) The golf putting aid of claim 1, wherein the target comprises a first arm and a second arm that are spaced apart by a distance at least as large as the diameter of a regulation size golf ball, and wherein the vertical plane is equidistant from the first arm and the second arm.

3. (Currently Amended) The golf putting aid of claim 1, wherein the target comprises a third arm that is spaced apart by from the putting surface by a distance at least as large as the diameter of a regulation size golf ball.

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4. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 1, wherein the target comprises first and second arms extending generally parallel to each other and connected by a third arm, such that the first, second and third arms together define the target opening.

5. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 4, wherein the first, second and third arms together form a U-shape.

6. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 1, wherein the target opening is centered with respect to the vertical plane.

7. (Currently Amended) A golf putting aid comprising:
first and second attachment structures;
an upper alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures;
a lower alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures, such that the alignment members are vertically aligned to define a vertical plane which is perpendicular to a putting surface;
at least one longitudinal support member having a first portion attached to the first attachment structure and a second portion, opposite from the first portion, attached to the second attachment structure; and
wherein at least one of the alignment members is ~~flexible~~ elastic.

8. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 7, wherein said at least one of the alignment members is expandable.

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9. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 7, wherein said at least one of the alignment members is composed of an elastic rope.

10. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 7, wherein said at least one of the alignment members is generally circular in cross-section.

11. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 7, further comprising at least one reference marker to be used by a golfer as a reference point during the golfer's putting stroke, wherein the at least one reference marker is slidable along one of the upper alignment member and the lower alignment member.

12. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 7, further comprising a plurality of reference markers to be used by a golfer as reference points during the golfer's putting stroke, wherein each reference marker is slidable along one of the upper alignment member and the lower alignment member.

13. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 12, wherein the plurality of reference markers comprises a back swing reference marker to be used by the golfer to aid the golfer in determining when to terminate the golfer's back swing, and a follow through reference marker to be used by the golfer to aid the golfer in determining when to terminate the golfer's follow through.

14. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 13, wherein the plurality of reference markers further comprises a ball placement reference marker to be used by the golfer to aid the golfer in positioning the golf ball on the putting surface

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and concentric with the ball marker, such that a center line of the ball is vertically aligned with the vertical plane.

15. (Original) A golf putting aid comprising:
first and second attachment structures;
an upper alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures;
a lower alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures, such that the alignment members are vertically aligned to define a vertical plane which is perpendicular to a putting surface;
at least one longitudinal support member disposed between and fixedly attached to the attachment structures, wherein the at least one longitudinal support member comprises a first portion attached to the first attachment structure and a second portion attached to the second attachment structure; and
a hinge that pivotally connects the first portion of the at least one longitudinal support member to the second portion of the at least one longitudinal support member.

16. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 15, wherein the alignment members are flexible.

17. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 15, wherein the alignment members are flexible and expandable.

18. (Original) The golf putting aid of claim 15, wherein the alignment members are each composed of an elastic rope.

19.-46. (Cancelled)

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47. (New) A golf putting aid comprising:
first and second attachment structures;
an upper alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures;
a lower alignment member disposed between and attached to the attachment structures, such that the alignment members are vertically aligned to define a vertical plane which is perpendicular to a putting surface, wherein at least one of the alignment members is flexible;
at least one longitudinal support member having a first portion attached to the first attachment structure and a second portion, opposite from the first portion, attached to the second attachment structure; and
at least one reference marker to be used by a golfer as a reference point during the golfer's putting stroke, wherein the at least one reference marker is slidable along one of the upper alignment member and the lower alignment member.